

- nuclear weapon states agreed not to transfer nuclear weapons to other states, or to assist them to acquire nuclear weapons, and non-nuclear weapons states undertook not to receive nuclear weapons and not to manufacture them (Articles I and II);
- non-nuclear states agreed to accept safeguards administered by the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) to ensure that nuclear materials were not diverted from peaceful uses to nuclear weapon development (Article III), in exchange for which they were promised the right to participate fully in the peaceful applications of nuclear technology, including peaceful nuclear explosions (Articles IV and V).

#### *Previous Review Conferences*

At the 1975 Review Conference, discussion centred on proposals by non-possessing states to add several protocols to the Treaty. The first of these dealt with the achievement of a comprehensive test ban, and the second with reductions in the nuclear weapon capabilities of the NWS. The third called upon the NWS to provide guarantees that they would not use nuclear weapons against non-possessing states. The Conference, however, was unable to agree on the language of the three protocols, and narrowly averted breaking up in disagreement. At the last minute, the Conference president produced a personal assessment of the issues which was accepted as the Conference Report.

The 1980 Review Conference took place at the time of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the decision by President Carter to withdraw the SALT II Treaty from the Senate ratification process. The conference was valuable in reviewing a number of key issues, including the Israeli and South African nuclear programmes, and their application and scope of the safeguards programme. As in 1975, however, the non-possessing states were dissatisfied with the progress (or lack of it) made by the NWS in reducing their nuclear arsenals. Primarily because of this issue, the Conference was unable to agree on a final document.

The 1985 Review Conference exhibited a comparable pattern of achievement and failure, but was able to agree on a Final Document. It strongly endorsed the objectives of the Treaty and the role of the IAEA, and found compromise language on issues such as nuclear assistance and the Israeli-South African nuclear programmes. However, the Conference was divided on the issues of a comprehensive test ban and progress towards nuclear disarmament. In the outcome, a Final Document was made possible by the use of a formula in which "the Conference except for certain states" deeply regretted the failure to achieve a comprehensive test ban and called upon the states concerned to resume negotiations in 1985. The "certain states" -- the United States and the United Kingdom -- asserted that they remained committed to the ultimate goal of a comprehensive test ban, but claimed that deep and verifiable reductions in nuclear weapon arsenals were the highest priority in terms of nuclear disarmament.